

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 1-17 are rejected. New claims 18-20 are added. Claims 1 and 7 are amended herein to clarify the invention and to address matters of form unrelated to substantive patentability issues.

Applicant herein traverses and respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of the claims cited in the above-referenced Office Action.

Claim 7 is rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention as a result of informalities stated in the Office Action. The claim is amended to remove or correct the informalities noted in the Office Action. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejection of the claim and its allowance are earnestly requested.

Claim 1 is rejected as obvious over Nakada (US 6,204,545) in view of Alvi (The Potential for Increasing the Efficiency of Photovoltaic Systems By Using Multiple Cell Concepts, cited in IDS) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses this rejection. For a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) to be sustained, the differences between the features of the combined references and the present invention must be obvious to one skilled in the art.

Claim 1, as currently amended, recites in pertinent part the following:

different types of solar cell modules each having a respectively different sensitivity wavelength band and each configured generally in a form of a layer, said solar cell modules being incorporated as an integrally laminated structure in which the solar cell modules are consecutively layered in the laminated structure, with a one said layer overlaying another said layer of respective ones of said solar cell modules in a direction of lamination, from a one of said solar modules having a shortest center wavelength of the sensitivity wavelength band to another of the solar modules having a longest center wavelength of the sensitivity wavelength band such that said one of said modules having the shortest center wavelength in said sensitivity wavelength band is positionable closest to an incidental side of said laminated structure which is adapted to being exposed to sunlight, at least one of said different types of said solar cell modules comprising a cell group module including nearly spherical solar cells aligned in columns and

rows as at least one array of said solar cells which
extend crosswise to said direction of lamination,
said solar cells in each of said columns and rows of
said cell group module being electrically connected
in parallel via a pair of lead wires

The revised claim language is believed by applicant to clarify a direction of lamination by specifying that each of the solar cell modules is configured generally in a form of a layer, and that each layer is consecutively layered in the laminated structure with a one layer overlaying another layer in a direction of lamination. The amended claim further sets forth that the claimed at least one cell group module includes nearly spherical solar cells aligned in columns and rows as at least one array of said solar cells which extends crosswise to the direction of lamination, and that the solar cells in each of the columns and rows of the cell group module are electrically connected in parallel via a pair of lead wires.

No such configuration of the at least one array being oriented crosswise, relative to the direction of lamination, is taught or suggested by either Nakada or Alvi, taken alone or in combination.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claim is not obvious in view of the cited references for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration of the rejections of claim 1 and its allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 2 and 3 are rejected as obvious over Nakada (US 6,204,545) in view of Alvi (The Potential for Increasing the Efficiency of Photovoltaic Systems By Using Multiple Cell Concepts, cited in IDS), and further in view of Freundlich (US 6,150,604) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses this rejection.

Freundlich, cited for its alleged teaching relating to a planar light receiving module having a planar common pn junction and a reflective mirrored surface fails to adequately supplement what is missing in both Nakada and Alvi, as highlighted above with regard to the rejection of parent claim 1.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are not obvious in view of the cited references for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 2 and 3 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 4-11, 16 and 17 are rejected as obvious over Nakada (US 6,204,545) in view of Alvi (The Potential for Increasing the Efficiency of Photovoltaic Systems By Using Multiple Cell Concepts, cited in IDS) and Freundlich (US 6,150,604), and further in view of Nakada (WO 2004/001858, and English equivalent US 2006/00086384) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses this rejection.

Nakada (WO 2004/001858 and English equivalent US 2006/00086384), cited merely for its alleged teaching of connecting spherical solar cells aligned in plural columns and rows via plural lead wires extending in a columnar direction

fails to adequately supplement what is missing in both Nakada, Alvi and Freundlich.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejected claims are not obvious in view of the cited references for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration of the rejections of claims 4-11, 16 and 17 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 12 and 13 are rejected as obvious over Nakada (US 6,204,545) in view of Alvi (The Potential for Increasing the Efficiency of Photovoltaic Systems By Using Multiple Cell Concepts, cited in IDS) and Freundlich (US 6,150,604), and further in view of Alivisatos et al. (US 2003/0226498) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Claims 14 and 15 are rejected as obvious over Nakada (US 6,204,545) in view of Alvi (The Potential for Increasing the Efficiency of Photovoltaic Systems By Using Multiple Cell Concepts, cited in IDS) and Freundlich (US 6,150,604), and further in view of Alivisatos et al. (US 2003/0226498) and Wegleiter et al. (US 6,531,405) under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The applicant herein respectfully traverses these rejections.

It is respectfully submitted that none of the disclosures of Alivisatos et al. and Wegleiter et al. supplements what is lacking in Alvi, Nakada and Freundlich, as discussed above. Therefore, a *prima facie* case of obviousness cannot be established, as the proffered combinations of references fail to teach or suggest all

claimed features. Thus, reconsideration of the rejections of claims 12-15 and their allowance are respectfully requested.

Claims 18 and 19 are added and are submitted as patentable over the cited art of record. Independent claim 18 recites subject matter directed to solar cell modules having a respectively different sensitivity wavelength band, wherein the solar cell modules are respectively configured as discrete layers each having a widened expanse running crosswise to a thickness direction, the solar cell modules being incorporated as an integrally laminated structure in which the solar cell modules are layered so as to overlay one another in the thickness direction which, among other features recited therein, is not believed disclosed in the cited art in the manner as claimed. Dependent claims 19 and 20 are patentable based on the subject matter recited therein in addition to the subject matter of claim 18.

No fee is believed due. If there is any fee due the USPTO is hereby authorized to charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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